

Tuesday – September 6, 2016

Representative Donald Jones -Chair
Education and Local Government Interim Committee
PO Box 2011706
Helena, Montana 59620-1706

Re: Public written comments for the continue support of the Education and Local Government Interim Committee regarding
SJR 21 study of Local Fire and Emergency Services and bill draft language.

Dear Representative Jones:

I am submitting written public comments to support the Education and Local Government Interim Committee on SJR 21 study of Local Fire and Emergency Services and the work being completed on the bill draft language as it pertains to the Thursday - September 8, 2016 meeting in Room 102 of the State Capitol in Helena.

I appreciate the work that is being completed by the interim committee and the legislative services division staff on SJR 21.

The work that was done in the past on the "Price of Flames" as outlined in the final report of the Fire Suppression Interim Committee prepared by the Legislative Services Division in January of 2009, that discussed coverage of workers compensation for volunteers that are members of a volunteer fire company, as part of a rural fire district and fire service area, along with those providing emergency medical services within the State of Montana.

The efforts of SJR21 and any proposed draft bill legislation to insure workers compensation for the volunteer's within the State of Montana that serve their local communities, at the same time work with private contractors, emergency medical services (EMS) along with Life Flight air ambulances, in conjunction to local law enforcement, Montana Highway Patrol; county, state and federal agencies in the time of all risk incidents.

Thank-you for the opportunity to submit written public comments regarding SJR 21.

Sincerely;

/s/ Richard E. Grady

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Education & Local Government Interim Committee
Sept. 8, 2016
Exhibit 7